

Good News Daily

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Sunday, January 20

Hebrews 6:17—7:10 *This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast...* (v.19 NASB)

When we need strong encouragement, we have God's promise of salvation and He is faithful! When we are weary and discouraged, we need to read God's word and trust in Him.

The world can take its toll on our spirits, but God's promises can carry us through the hard times. The psalms for this day all remind us to praise the Lord, giving thanks in all things.

The Isaiah passage reminds us that God makes away through the sea and a path through the mighty waters. God will make something new, a roadway in the wilderness.

Thank You, Lord, that You are the anchor of our souls.

Isaiah 43:14—44:5; Psalms 148, 149, 150; John 4:27-42

Monday, January 21

Ephesians 4:1-16 *And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ.* (vv.11-12)

Paul is writing to the church in Ephesus about the Christian calling and asking for Christians to serve one another with humility, gentleness, patients, forbearance, and love. Since we have one Lord, one faith, and one baptism, there should be no quarrels or arguing in the church.

We have all been given gifts to share in our church to make it strong and effective. What is your gift or gifts? Are you sharing them in your church? Are you speaking the truth in love or complaining and gossiping? Are you patient and gentle with other Christians?

Dear Lord, help me share my gifts to build up Your Church.

Isaiah 44:6-8, 21-23; Psalm 25; Mark 3:7-19a

Tuesday, January 22

Ephesians 4:17-32 *Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.* (v.32)

Of early Christians it was said, "See how they love one another!" They were sharing and caring, and the world noticed how they loved each other. It is a fact that wherever Christians have gone in this world, they have established schools and hospitals and orphanages, and fed the poor.

Are you helping your church reach out to the needy in your community? Many churches have food pantries or clothing closets. They also join other churches in larger community projects. And whenever there is a tornado or hurricane or disaster, church groups are there helping feed the hungry and rebuild homes, schools, and hospitals. Are your prayers and dollars and hours going to helpful Christian service? Are we being kind, tenderhearted, and forgiving of others?

Dear Jesus, help me share and care and be forgiving.
Isaiah 44:9-20; Psalms 26, 28; Mark 3:19b-35

Wednesday, January 23

Ephesians 5:1-14 *Therefore do not be partakers with them; for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light.* (vv.7-8)

Paul asks Christians to be imitators of God and to walk in love. He asks that there be no silly talk or course jesting, but rather giving thanks, so our words are important. What comes out of our mouths shows what is in our heart.

There should be no darkness in anything we say or do, for we are now children of the light—our Lord Jesus Christ. “For the fruit of the Light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth, trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord” (v9).

Dear Jesus, help me walk in your light and love and truth, and be thankful.

Isaiah 44:24—45:7; Psalm 38; Mark 4:1-20

Thursday, January 24

Ephesians 5:15-33 *Always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father.* (v.20)

Practicing the attitude of gratitude should be a daily activity for the Christian person. Paul asks believers to be filled with the spirit and give thanks.

The daily habit of thanking God at the end of each day for His grace and favor helps us remember our many blessings and fills our hearts and minds with joy. Too often, the evil one points us to our disappointments and failures and takes our focus away from God’s goodness. Let us turn our eyes on Jesus and his blessings.

Dear Lord, thank You for my many blessings. Make me a living sacrifice of praise.

Isaiah 45:5-17, Psalm 37:1-18; Mark 4:21-34

Friday, January 25

Ephesians 6:1-9 *With good will render service, as to the Lord, and not to men, knowing that whatever good thing each one does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether slave or free. (vv.7-8)*

“As you sow, so shall you reap”—we get what we give. As we do the will of God from the heart (v.6), we receive blessings from Him.

As we pass on the blessings God has given us, He gives us more blessings. As we pray and serve and seek His face, He enriches our lives to do more for Him.

I’m sure your church has outreach programs to help the poor and needy. Get involved with your time, talents, and treasure. Many blessings will come to you as yours as you serve Him and your neighbors.

Isaiah 45:18-25; Psalm 31; Mark 4:35-41

Saturday, January 26

Ephesians 6:10-24 *Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. (v.11)*

The soldier equipped for the battle has on the helmet of salvation, the breastplate of righteousness, the belt of truth, the shoes of the gospel of peace, and, in his hands, this sword of the Spirit and the shield of faith. For as Paul says, we are wrestling against the powers of darkness, not just flesh and blood.

We are to stand firm with prayer and petition for all the saints and be alert.

In the Isaiah passage, God assures us that He will bring near His righteousness and grant us His salvation.

Dear Jesus, thank you that we can be strong in the Lord and the strength of His might.

Isaiah 46:1-13; Psalms 30, 32; Mark 5:1-20

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